Events/Festivals

1. Heritage Festival
2. Rajasthan Day Celebration
3. Pushkar Fair
4. Desert Festival

Project proposals that are complete in all respect are examined as per guidelines and approved on the basis of *inter-se* priority and funds released subject to availability under respective head. In the current financial year, Rs. 9.04 crore has been sanctioned for various tourism infrastructure projects in Rajasthan.

Proposal to boost tourism in Rajasthan

854. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of foreign/domestic tourists who visited the country, State-wise during the last three years and whether it exhibits good potential for tourism in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of Government policies, if any, to boost rural, eco, wild-life, archaeological, forts, desert and religious tourism in Rajasthan;

(c) whether any proposal, to boost tourism have been sent by the State Government of Rajasthan to the Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The total no. of foreign/domestic tourists who visited the country State-wise during the last three years is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Government/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/ UT Administrations for tourism related projects including projects pertaining to rural, eco, wild-life, archaeological, forts, desert and religious tourism which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure

Development of Destinations and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Following projects had been prioritized in consultation with the State Government of Rajasthan for the year 2006-07:

Destination

1. Ajmer Sharif
2. Jaisalmer

Circuit

1. Eco-Tourism circuit
2. Floodlighting of monuments

Festival/Event

1. Heritage Festival
2. Rajasthan Day Celebration
3. Pushkar Fair
4. Desert Festival

Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respect are examined as per scheme guidelines and sanctioned on the basis of *inter-se* priority and funds released subject to availability under the respective head. An amount of Rs. 953.84 lakh has been sanctioned in the year 2006-07 for Rajasthan.

A list of projects sanctioned for Rajasthan in the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is at Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise Domestic and Foreign Tourist visits during the years 2003, 2004 & 2005

Sl.No.	State/UT	2003		2004		2005	
		Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	7413879	479318	89440272	501019	93529554	560024
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2195	123	4740	269	3005	289

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	2156675	6610	2288093	7285	2467652	10782
4.	Bihar	6044710	60820	8097456	38118	8687220	63321
5.	Goa	1725140	314357	2085729	363230	1965343	336803
6.	Gujarat	7640479	37534	7748371	21179	8076902	47107
7.	Haryana	5903196	84981	5399099	66153	5913394	59363
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5543414	167902	6345069	204344	6936840	207790
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5748846	24330	6881473	40242	7239481	44345
10.	Karnataka	11175292	249908	27194178	530225	30470316	545225
11.	Kerala	5871228	294621	5972182	345546	5946423	346499
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5968719	92278	8619486	145335	7090952	160832
13.	Maharashtra	11272906	986544	13392212	1218382	14276097	1448656
14.	Manipur	92923	257	93476	249	94299	316
15.	Meghalaya	371953	6304	433595	12407	375901	5099
16.	Mizoram	35129	279	38598	326	44715	273
17.	Nagaland	5605	743	10056	1084	17470	883
18.	Orissa	3701245	25020	4125536	28817	4632976	33310
19.	Punjab	1150015	4589	361568	7312	431036	4353
20.	Rajasthan	12545135	628560	16033896	971772	18787298	1131164
21.	Sikkim	179661	11966	230719	14646	251744	16523
22.	Tamil Nadu	40213060	901504	42279838	1058012	43213128	1179316
23.	Tripura	257331	3196	260907	3171	216330	2677
24.	Uttaranchal	10835241	55228	11720570	62885	14215570	75995
25.	Uttar Pradesh	80020000	817000	88371247	1037243	95440947	1174597
26.	Chhattisgarh	1256407	1150	1897200	3000	324495	912
27.	Jharkhand	398342	3223	461486	4375	2042723	6035
28.	West Bengal	11300763	705457	12380389	775694	13566911	895639
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	86826	4142	105004	4578	30225	2147
30.	Chandigarh	567259	17057	599448	16137	614176	23284
31.	Daman & Diu	447825	3274	399800	4111	394914	6164
32.	Delhi	1430546	693827	1866552	839574	2061782	1511893
33.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	447825	136	532016	168	526142	1226
34.	Lakahadweep	4604	682	3889	1285	6908	941
35.	Pondichery	500111	25559	558445	32053	574011	36009
	TOTAL :	309038335	6708479	366232495	8360226	390466880	9939782

Statement-II

Projects sanctioned to the State of Rajasthan during 2004-05, 2005-06 *and* 2006-07

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of Project/Scheme	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
2004-05		
1.	Development of National Capital Region Tourist Circuit in Rajasthan under the Scheme of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuit	738.00
2.	Development of Hadoti Tourist Circuit in Rajasthan under scheme for Integrated Development of tourist Circuit	725.10
3.	Mounting of Sound & Light Show at Amber Fort, Jaipur	129.26
4.	Development of an Elephant Village (Hathi Gram) at Amber, Jaipur	492.18
5.	IT Project Scheme for translation of the existing Rajasthan tourism portal into five other languages	24.42
6.	Development of Amber Fort Complex at Jaipur	333.33
7.	Jaipur Heritage International Festival, 2005	15.00
8.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Samode in Jaipur Distt.	20.00
9.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Haldighati in Rajasamand Distt.	19.32
10.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project at village Neemrana in Alwar Distt.	20.00
11.	Organizing Paragliding	2.45
	TOTAL :	2519.06
2005-06		
1.	Mounting of Sound and Light Show at Amber Fort, Jaipur	129.26
2.	Development of Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar at Jaipur under Destination Development Scheme	464.32
3.	Integrated Development of Mewar-Vagad Circuit comprising of places in Udaipur-Rajasamand-Chittorgarh-Banswara-Doongarpur Districts as Tourist Circuit	580.00
4.	Development of Brij Bhoomi religious Tourist Circuit comprising of Mathura, Vrindavan, Barsana, Jheel, Kalia Devi, Poonchari, Neelkanth, Bharthrihari in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh	477.07

1	2	3
5.	Integrated Development of Pushkar (District Ajmer) as a Tourist Destination	434.04
6.	Celebration of Jaipur Heritage International Festival, 2006	15.00
	TOTAL :	2099.69
2006-07		
1.	Integrated Development of Udaipur as a Tourist Destination	276.68
2.	Conservation, Restoration and Preservation of Gagron Fort, Jhalawar Distt., Rajasthan under Destination Dev. Scheme	281.71
3.	Rajasthan Day, 2007	10.00
4.	Jaipur Heritage International Festival, 2007	10.00
5.	Pushkar Fair, 2006	05.00
6.	Desert Festival, 2006	05.00
7.	Development of Jaisalmer as a tourist destination	315.45
8.	Rural Tourism Project for Haldighati, Distt. Rajasamand	50.00
	TOTAL :	953.84

Buddhist circuit for pilgrims

855. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to have Buddhist circuit for facilitating travel of pilgrims;

(b) if so, what places are included and what kind of infrastructure made; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Buddhist circuit consisting of various such destinations in the country is already quite popular among domestic and overseas visitors.

(b) Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 121.15 crore during Tenth Plan period for tourism infrastructure development at 20 Buddhist destinations. Ministry of Tourism has also mobilized external funding from Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC) for tourism infrastructure